



Foggy Bottom News

February 1994

Published for and by the Citizens of Foggy Bottom and West End

Volume 39, No. 4



► **DON'T MISS IT!!!**

Foggy Bottom Association Membership Party

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FB Home to Volunteer Agency

By Beth Donovan

In October, DC Cares and the Volunteer Clearinghouse united forces, forming the newly coined Greater DC Cares. This blanket organization serves as a city-wide base for matching concerned residents with groups in need of assistance. This agency's offices are located near 23rd & N Streets at the northwest edge of Foggy Bottom/West End.

Would-be Samaritans are no longer faced with the dilemma of which of the two groups to consult. They now benefit from a "one-stop shopping" situa-

tion. Corporations and individuals alike can come together to offer a helping hand to society through community outreach and fundraising.

Greater DC Cares has something to offer everyone. Through the merger young and old, student, professional and homemaker alike are now afforded more efficient and all-inclusive resources for reaching out to the District's less fortunate. All volunteers are given an orientation and thorough training before embarking on any project. Whether you choose to donate your time or

dollars, you will make a measurable difference in the life of someone who is sick, impoverished, lonely, neglected or abused.

The new venture was formed with the notion of providing a flexible program of opportunities to fit schedules ranging from the over-harried executive to the retiree looking to put a new meaning in his or her life. Activities fall into two main categories. The regular monthly team projects are best suited to those who can make a long-term commitment. Even these are

continued on page 4

Zoning Commission Approves WETA Project

On January 10, 1994, the D.C. Zoning Commission unanimously approved the joint project between George Washington University (GWU) and the Greater Washington Education Telecommunications Association (WETA). The proposed Planned Unit Development (PUD) project will permit the relocation of WETA from Virginia to the District and house the broadcast studios that produce a variety of programs including the MacNeil/Lehrer NewsHour. The new building will be located at 21st and H Streets, N.W.

The Zoning Commission also approved a change in zoning from residential to commercial use (C-3-C). Many supporters of the project were disappointed that the property was not zoned SP-2, as the developers had agreed to propose, which is designated for non-profit use. This could set a bad precedent to future development south and west of Pennsylvania Avenue.

ANC-2A had opposed the project because of the proposed height and the inappropriate use of space within the approved GWU campus. In addition, there are concerns regarding the impact of electromagnetic emissions from the antennas on the roof of the GWU/WETA building. At its January meeting, ANC-2A passed a resolution *continued on page 8*

The January 19 hearing on Western Presbyterian/Miriam's Kitchen will continue on February 2. Residents are urged to attend. See Story on page 7.

FOGGY BOTTOM ASSOCIATION MEETING

Speaker:

**Ward 2 Councilmember
Jack Evans**

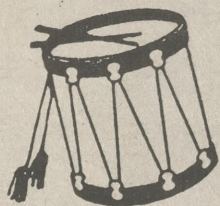
**Monday, January 31, 1994
St. Paul's Parish House
2430 K Street, N.W.
7:30 p.m.**

(Next Meeting: Monday, February 28)

This issue, dedicated to volunteerism and volunteers, is intended to remind us all of what we as individuals can accomplish when we lend a helping hand. This paper is published by volunteers, and we think — and hope — it makes a difference, helping to maintain community spirit in this sometimes beleaguered urban atmosphere.

Volunteering does not necessarily mean giving a lot of time; of course you can spend a lot of time — and it's easy if you love what you're doing. But brief periods can be useful as well. But certain principles apply: first, know how to say no if you really don't want to do it; find volunteer work you like and/or you think is really worth doing; and in the words of a good friend — try to find an organization that treats volunteers like the jewels they are.

The Becker Beat



This issue about volunteers reminds me of the importance of good treatment of volunteers — and that includes thank-yous. I recalled another name which should have been on my thank-you list last spring: **Ed Kelly**, ANC Commissioner, who provided prompt reports on ANC actions for the past couple of years. He wrote them quickly so that they could make our deadlines, and I was lucky enough to get an oral report as well, since he and I attend the same church and are both ushers. Thanks, Ed.

If you've been in the city a while, you recognized the name of the new chief of Amtrak, **Thomas M. Downs**. Tom Downs served Washington well some years ago, and when he left more than a few community leaders felt the loss of a fair and concerned public servant. We wish him luck on his new project, the rail passenger system of the country.

Back a few years, there lived in FB two community activists named **Marthlu Bledsoe** and **Hal Davitt**. They met while fighting the good fight for FB, got married, and moved to a new neighborhood with significant new challenges and battles to be fought. Their neighborhood is Blagden Alley, really downtown, and they have continued their activities from their beautiful old (and remodeled) home in the 900 block of M Street, N.W. Their civic association, the Blagden Alley Association, gave them each an award in 1993: to Hal, the Decade of Service Award, and to Marthlu, my favorite award:

Show Time at February FBA Meeting

Mark your calendar for the FBA's February 28 meeting, when the talented political satirist and cabaret entertainer "Mrs. Foggybottom" and her troupe of singers and dancers bring a roughly 45-minute excerpt of their revue to Foggy Bottom. Admission will be free for members and nonmembers. Show up at 7:30 to get a seat.

Mrs. Foggybottom, also known as Joan Cushing, has just completed her "seventh smash year" at the Shoreham Hotel as the composer, lyricist, and star of the "Mrs. Foggybottom & Friends" group. Joan Cushing will also be making a special guest appearance as herself at the FBA members' party on Sunday, February 13. Hope to see you at both events!

the HRC-Real President Award.

Poor DPW: it has not covered itself with glory in our neighborhood in the recent past. (See ANC Highlights.) Eye Street's **Holsey Handyside** has been asking since June 1993 for the repair of lights on the walkway between Virginia Avenue and Eye Street, used by hundreds of people each day and night. In June one was not working, and over the intervening months the rest have been going out, leaving the heavily traveled walkway toward Georgetown without illumination.

Mr. Handyside's patience was exhausted when DPW wrote him that repairs had been made, when in fact they had not. The former diplomat's diplomatic demeanor was understandably absent in his letter to DPW's Betty Hager Francis. It's one thing to have problems getting repairs done (due they say to layoffs); it's another to state they're done without checking.

UPDATE GSA West Heating Plant to Burn Natural Gas

Effective January 1, 1994 the General Services Administration (GSA) agreed to utilize natural gas as the primary fuel source at its West Heating Plant located at 1051 29th Street, N.W. in Georgetown. The agreement is an important victory for the community since previously the plant had been burning fossil fuels with high levels of sulfur dioxide which threatened the health of citizens of Foggy Bottom, West End and Georgetown. The risk was particularly high for elderly people. GSA announced the agreement after the D.C. Department of Consumer and Regulatory Affairs held a public hearing on November 23, 1993. Organizations and citizens speaking in favor of the permanent switch to natural gas included: Foggy Bottom Association, represented by Jon Nowick; ANC-2A represented by Ed Kelly; the Kennedy Center; Councilmember Jack Evans; and Chris Lamb. GSA is expected to release an Environmental Impact Statement on the West Heating Plant in the near future.

DPW Withdraws Traffic Proposal

It was reported last time that the Department of Public

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Foggy Bottom News

The *Foggy Bottom News* is a publication of the Foggy Bottom Association. All editorial assistance is contributed on a volunteer basis by residents of the area.

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All announcements, letters, articles are welcome but must be typed double spaced. Please include an evening phone number. Send to:

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Works had published its intention to make major traffic pattern changes affecting Pennsylvania Avenue, 26th Street and M Street, as well as major changes in parking on these and several other streets. The West End Business Association (law

firms, hotels, etc. in the West End) had requested it, reportedly advising that the entire neighborhood was in agreement. The ANC, which was not notified as it is supposed to be of such matters, objected and the proposal was rescinded.

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FB

Editorial

Let's All Pull Together

by Chris Lamb, ANC 2A02 Commissioner

In a 12/6/93 editorial in the *GW Hatchet*, a George Washington University (GWU) student severely criticized the Foggy Bottom community for opposing the proposed move of Miriam's Kitchen, a large homeless feeding program, from its present location at 1906 H Street to 2401 Virginia Avenue.

The student admonishes the community for adapting an Ebenezer Scrooge doctrine by refusing street people the necessary services for survival. However, the GWU student does not mention that there already exist several programs in the Foggy Bottom/West End area for the homeless. In my ANC district alone there are three programs. Project NorthStar tutors and feeds homeless children two nights a week, and there are 2 daily feeding programs. One feeding program operates a block from where I live. The community has not objected to these and other programs because they either operate away from concentrated residential areas or are designed to help people making the transition to permanent housing. Opposition to Miriam's is based on the particular location and its proximity to a large residential neighborhood, which, according to the 1990 census, has mostly elderly people with modest incomes.

Miriam's Kitchen is currently located at a site, within the Foggy Bottom community, on which the International Monetary Fund (IMF) would like to expand. The IMF received millions of dollars of extraordinary building rights for which neither the city nor neighborhood received any benefits or amenities as required by law. The community requested that the IMF provide space for Miriam's as one of the conditions for expanding on the site. The IMF refused. In addition, as part of a task force that attempted to find an alternative location for Miriam's within Foggy Bottom, I personally contacted several non-profit organizations within our community but they were all unable to accommodate the program. Foggy Bottom residents are not opposed to Miriam's remaining in the area; we simply think that the proposed location is not appropriate. Miriam's is a separate legal entity that does not necessarily have to operate at 2401 Virginia Avenue.

The *Hatchet* editorial cites the recent death of a homeless person in front of the Office of Housing and Urban Development as evidence of the need for more programs like Miriam's. She was not destitute because \$300 was found on her body. She did not die because of a lack of shelter, because she had been living in one and left only a week before. She was not even alone but had family here. Yetta Adams was the classic homeless person, which is to say that her problem was not a lack of shelter or food. She died not because the city had no bed for her but because she chose not to occupy it. She was, it now seems, a mentally incapacitated person and an alcoholic as well.

It is clear that programs like Miriam's would not have prevented Yetta Adams' death. In fact, a committee of city officials and the homeless and their advocates have been meeting for the past few

Edna Wolf and Charlie, her St. Charles spaniel, have now adopted the Westbridge Park on their walks each day. Now that isn't to say the two of them wouldn't welcome you to take a turn in keeping the park for all to enjoy litter free too. If you live in the Westbridge you probably already know these two so check with them to see when you can give them a break. I took turns again with Edna in August when she travelled to the islands off the coast of Cape Cod — now it is your turn. Need participation from all of us to make the litter control campaign really work. Won't you join us with your efforts?

Inez Pulver who retired from the State Dept. still likes to go. During the summer she headed for Frankfurt, Germany, Paris, France and Oslo, Norway where she visited friends all along the way. Last summer you might remember she flew to St. Petersburg and took a trip by boat up the Nivea River. I told you that she liked to travel.

weeks to develop a far-reaching plan to shift the focus of the city's homeless programs from emergency shelters and temporary feeding programs such as Miriam's to preventive measures such as job training and substance abuse treatment and help for people making the transition to permanent housing. The consensus is that the "District's emergency-based system must not be reformed or enlarged, but replaced." (*Washington Post*, 12/11/93). The Foggy Bottom community would welcome programs that truly address the needs of the homeless.

It is very easy to criticize the Foggy Bottom community. However, it is much more difficult to try and understand the complexity of issues surrounding Miriam's Kitchen and try and find a workable compromise that balances the needs of the community with those of the homeless. No one is trying to impede religious practices or harm the homeless. We are all struggling to help the needy while building strong neighborhoods that will keep the city alive and vibrant.

Let's all pull together and start pressuring the IMF to continue operating Miriam's Kitchen at its present location.

Sidewalk Talk

By Betty Olsen



Photo by Betty Olsen

Sandy Fitch's Amazon parrot, Barney, is now called a Doberman with feathers. Seems like even covered at night he sensed something amiss behind their building and really began acting up at 2 am when all good little parrots are asleep. But he wouldn't quiet down so his owner looked out of the window and saw a man rifling some cars. She called the police and watched them come into the alleyway but they could not locate the thief. As

Barney's mistress was looking on she gave them an eyes-on account of his whereabouts in the garage area of the River Inn hiding under a van. The police picked him up, took him off and booked him — all because of Barney's jabber-jabber. ♪

Then that's not all — Barney became disturbed again when he heard something under the window he sleeps near. This time it was a peeper trying to get some jollies by peeking in windows on the ground level. Barney is the parrot that hadn't had his wings clipped last year and flew around Foggy Bottom for several days before landing at a friendly place in Columbia Plaza; Marlies Backhaus returned him to his home. He is quite a bird to be sure. Hadn't heard of watch-bird before? Well now you have.

Welcome, Beth Donovan, who is writing for *The Foggy Bottom News*. Anyone else out there who likes to write — let me know — it is your paper, ya' know.

Eileen and Murdaugh madden IV are back from Kenya where he was on business and she pleasure.

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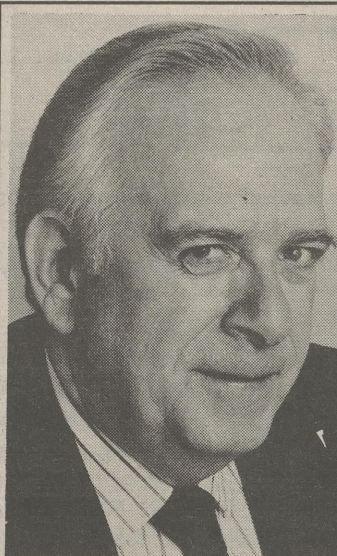
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Volunteer continued from page 1

overstaffed to allow you to get away to visit Uncle Buzz and Aunt Ida in Poughkeepsie on occasion. If you anticipate frequent conflicts, you may want to focus on special projects which react to a one-time critical need. Regardless of your niche, you will be provided with a monthly calendar of all ongoing activities.

One program which relies heavily on donated time is Meals on Wheels. "This organization is a real life-link to the outside world," according to Robin Haytowitz, acting Executive Director on Greater DC Cares. Volunteers gather in carpools to deliver meals to the elderly homebound, AIDS victims and other critically ill persons. The recipients welcome both the nourishment and the companionship. You can be of special help if you have a vehicle and knowledge of the area, but even more bodies are needed than cars and detailed route maps are provided for all participants. Best of all, you can partake as often or as infrequently as fits your schedule.

One of the most critical areas of intervention involves the area's children. As the venerable Mark Twain once put it, "Training is everything. The peach was once a bitter almond; cauliflower is nothing but cabbage with a college education." A variety of opportunities exist for tutoring youths with schoolwork as well as for providing a positive adult role model who can give career guidance and general words of wisdom. Of equal value is the companionship the volunteer can offer.

One illustration of this involves the realization a volunteer had while attending a seminar on children in poverty put on by Greater DC Cares. The volunteer asked one of the keynote speakers why the child he spent time with, an avid fingerpainter, always grew sullen at the end of the day and refused to take his artwork home with him. The speaker answered that this boy lived in a shelter and there was no place for him to display the painting there. The speaker then relayed the account of another volunteer who did not understand why her child companion would become abnormally distraught when she got herself soiled while playing. The speaker had explained to the woman that this was because the child's family did not have the money to wash clothes frequently and thus the child could be teased at school and even labeled homeless. The next time this occurred, she spent nearly an hour with the little girl cleaning her up in the bathroom. Says Haytowitz, "I think this is one superb example of how we can build bridges of understanding between seemingly unlikely members of the community."

There are numerous additional programs from which the volunteer can benefit as much or more than they contribute. A housing refurbishment project can teach you handy skills for your own home renovation (there is always a foreman on duty to provide guidance), and practice as a "Volunteer Referral Counselor" at Greater DC Cares headquarters in Foggy Bottom can hone valuable

secretarial and counseling skills for those looking to embark on a new career in a related field.

Community Service touches many lives, enabling volunteers and benefactors alike to learn from each other. As Haytowitz urges, "Think outside what feels comfortable at first" and sign up for an orientation. Most projects are accessible by Metro and alternative means of transportation can be arranged for those which are not.

If you cannot contribute your time or if you would like to assist in an equally critical aspect of the organization, you can make a check payable to DC Cares (all contributions are tax deductible). Financial contributions are especially helpful to counter the costs incurred by the recent merger. Any amount donated will help insure the success of Greater DC Cares' vast outreach efforts. For more information or to set up an orientation, call (202) 663-9207. Show DC that you too care about its greatest resource!

Editor's Note: With Greater DC Cares right in our neighborhood, FB residents with time, talent or funds to donate have no excuse!

Volunteer Right Here in Foggy Bottom

C.A.R.E. in Foggy Bottom (Community Action to Reach the Elderly)

Marca Piehuta
955-1055

These programs and services for seniors in Foggy Bottom are managed by IONA Senior Services and are available to all seniors (they need not be poor or indigent).

"Shopping Partners" assist with grocery shopping and other light errands.

"Make a Wish" fulfills special requests, e.g. outings, going to a movie, baking a birthday cake.

Future services: transportation and assistance with medical claims.

Columbia Hospital for Women
Melissa Canham-Clyne
293-6596

Volunteer assignments are patient-related, visitor-related, or in office support. Included are duties at the information desk, assisting with patients at admitting, etc.

George Washington University Hospital
Emmy Kappler
944-1013

GWUMC's volunteer opportunities include work involving patients, visitors, and office support, as well as duties at the gift shop.

Project NorthStar
223-0144

Project NorthStar, also known as the Homeless Children's Tutorial Project, is a non-profit community organization which tutors children whose families are homeless. The program operates out of Francis Junior High School on N Street between 24th and 25th Street. Volunteers come to the school twice a week (Mondays and Wednesdays) to tutor about 30 children. Each child is assigned to a volunteer and the tutoring sessions last about two hours. Volunteers then prepare a meal for the kids and afterwards they are taken back to their shelter in a bus. Tutors come from all walks of life and are usually not teachers by training or profession. Many live in the surrounding community.

The Project is supported by public contributions and in-kind donations. Individuals interested in volunteer opportunities should call 202-223-0144.

St. Mary's Court
Margaret Pulley
223-5712

Volunteers are sought for special activities (teaching courses, etc.), companionship, accompanying residents to doctors' offices, shopping, etc.

Stevens School
Elizabeth Shiro
872-1877

FB's local elementary school needs a host of volunteers, as readers, tutors, and special teachers (e.g., a chef teaches cooking).

And other places in FB need help, too. The American Red Cross, 2020 F Street, (728-6400), Amnesty International on 22nd Street (775-5161) and the Kennedy Center need a large contingent of volunteers.

The other two public schools in the area. Francis Junior High School (724-4841) and the School Without Walls (724-4889), will welcome help as well. And, of course, both the Foggy Bottom Association, the *Foggy Bottom News*, and the Foggy Bottom/West End Advisory Neighborhood Commission have short-term and ongoing projects in need of good citizen input.

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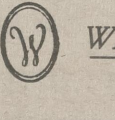


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Purpose: To give residents timely, safe access to plowed arterials.

Equipment: Trash-compacter trucks, normally used for trash and recycling collections, are equipped with mounts and can be outfitted with plows. At least one packer will be deployed to each residential trash-collection route in the city. (Alleys will not be plowed.)

Sanitation Services: Trash collections will be rescheduled. Collections will depend on the severity and duration of the storm. Residents should watch local media outlets for latest information about conditions and trash collection schedules.

Personnel: Driver familiarity with the areas serviced will be maintained as much as possible. Sanitation workers idled by the use of the trash packers to plow residential streets will be assigned to selected sites to shovel

Library Friends Meet

"Woe be to him who reads but one book," George Herbert wrote, and the Friends of the West End Library agree. At their annual meeting, members discussed plans to help the West End branch purchase books and magazine subscriptions.

Last year the Friends donated \$2,000 for reading material. In addition, the group bought outdoor trash receptacles, filled the planters with flowers, had the hedges trimmed, and purchased six chairs for the library.

The Friends re-elected officers: Robert C. Brewster as president, Mary Lou Hennessy as vice president, Lucille G. Duprat as Treasurer, and Judith A. Maguire as secretary.

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- intersections
- crosswalks and wheelchair ramps
- fire hydrants
- catch basins
- downtown
- courts
- schools
- major intersections

Crews assigned to shoveling will be transported in buses on loan from the Departments of Recreation and Human Services.

FB Buildings Aid
Stevens School

Since September a small band of apartment/condo dwellers in Foggy Bottom has been helping gather grocery receipts for Stevens School. Into boxes provided by the school, building tenants have been contributing receipts to help the school gain extra equipment from Safeway and Giant.

Those helpers are Jennie Lazowski of Jefferson House, Marjorie Wheatley of the Elise; Edith Peruso of Watergate; Jon Nowick of Potowmac Overlook, assisted by Marie Madon of West End Place; Jessie Stewart; and Robbie Jones of the Bader.

We believe other buildings are also collecting for these or other schools.

They realized, as did their building managements, that collecting those receipts was a simple and financially painless way to help our schools. No money was involved, other than that a person spent on groceries, of course; just pieces of paper.

So far receipts for over \$25,000 have been collected. Principal Juanita Braddock advises they may be exchanged for computer software; several cameras, or tape recorders, etc. Or, if the total reaches \$45,000 they can obtain much wanted instruments such as a violin.

There is still time to collect and contribute receipts. Stevens is on 21st Street between K and L; Francis Junior High is on N Street between 23rd and 24th; and the School Without Walls is at 21st and G. Just take receipts to the school office; believe me, they will be happy to have them!

And if you would be willing to collect them in your building next year, call 337-5528. At least we hope the supermarkets will do it again next year!

Fraternities
Make A Difference

Earlier this year, the Foggy Bottom playground on 26th Street benefitted from the volunteer efforts of Pi Kappa Alpha fraternity on the GWU campus. The community committee working on the playground had purchased 3000 pounds of sand for the ever-popular sandbox. The problem: stacked high were 60 bags each containing 50 pounds of sand. So Adrian Crook and Frank Roccogrande of the fraternity manfully carried the bags, poured the sand into the box, and the children were soon play-

ing happily in the new, snow-white sand. Incidentally, the kids immediately referred to the sand as sugar. Thanks, guys! You made a difference.

Food Drive Successful

On behalf of the brothers of Lambda Chi Alpha, I would like to thank the residents of the Foggy Bottom Community for your participation in this year's North American Food Drive. With your generous donations, we were able to raise 1180 pounds of food for the Capital Area Community Food Bank.

Again, thank you, and we look forward to your support in next year's food drive.

Kevin Matthew Kreutner
Food Drive Chairman



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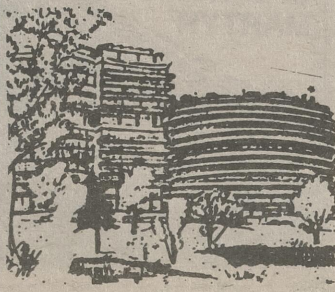
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And where would the Wheel of Fortune stop?

I looked at Jordie, sitting with his head in his hands.

"It didn't make it," I said, as the whole meaning came flooding over me.

"The Wheel missed just a little, it stopped on the 1," said Jordie. "I felt all numb, I saw the dealer, his arm coming over and sweeping all my chips into his pile. And I said, 'It didn't hit, and all the money is gone!'" He was pacing again.

"If you found Jerry Slick —," I began.

"I got up and left the table. I was outside looking for Slick but he wasn't anywhere, and I found the washroom and I threw up and finally I thought, 'If anybody could, Matt would think of something! And I drove through a red light and people hollered but I got here.'"

I stood up. "We're going back to the Dolley Madison," I said. "It's our only chance."

Lucy was outside the door. I got my coat. "Jordie has a little problem at the Dolley Madison Casino," I said. "We're going to straighten it out."

"Oh, Matt, be careful," said Lucy. I waved and we were out the door.

There was no way I was going to trust Jordie's driving. So we went to the River House and got a cab, and directly were on Pennsylvania Avenue, down toward Pershing Square and the Dolley Madison.

Jordie couldn't sit still. "All that money gone in a minute," he moaned, "and with Slick, it seemed so easy. How could I be so stupid?"

"You've got a lot of company," I said. "Now leave it to me, you only talk if I give you the nod."

And there it was, the whole front of the Casino a fairyland of lights. Jordie got out and sort of stumbled toward the entrance.

"Keep an eye on the kid," said the driver. "He's in a bad way."

"I'll do that," I said. "He lost a lot of money, they got to make an allowance."

"Don't count on it," said the cabbie. "These sharpies only take, they never give. Only this week a man tried to commit suicide, bank fellow from Philly. They hush it up."

I handed him a ten dollar bill. "Lots of people gettin' hurt," I said, "and can't afford it."

"Lotsa kids too," said the cabbie. "Just tonight I brung a whole load of students from Georgetown, guarantee not a one over eighteen."

"Bad for everybody," I said.

"Oh it's good for the cabs," said the driver. "Almost as bad as Atlantic City. Nobody dares t'walk anywhere outside the Casino, scum waitin' to mug ya, broad daylight. Well, lots of luck!"

He was gone. With my ten dollars.

The greeter at the door was all decked out in his Colonial outfit, red and gold and fancy braid, a wig and three-cornered hat. And a good Irishman under it.

We passed through the door. It was a strange new world, all bright lights and glitter and bells and red ribbon, and all over, "Sinatra for New Year's!"

The Mob had taken over the fine old Hilton, tore out the first two floors, and spent nearly a hundred million to fix it up. Now it was slot machines, rows and rows, stretching almost a city block. Over there, tables for blackjack and poker and the Wheels of Fortune. And on the left and right sides, wide escalators, with rows of lights, to the mezzanine, with the luxury restaurant Lafayette, and the plush suites for the High Rollers. Like fifty-dollar slot machines, and no-limit poker, million dollars on the table, many a game.

Here at the slots, men and women sitting like zombies, oblivious to everything except the whirr and clink, dropping in the quarters and half dollars, and some the big silver dollar coins. All straining for the not-too-often clatter of coins dropping into the trays underneath.

"We're looking for the manager, Mr. —?" I said to the security guard.

"That would be Mr. Corleoni, sir," he replied. "Just keep on down to your right, can't miss."

Corleoni the Gorilla! I'd heard of him. This would be fun!

On past "CHANGE," with players lined up with cash and checks and credit cards, for the little buckets for chips, different values.

Into "MANAGEMENT," Abbie at the desk, friendly but businesslike.

We introduced ourselves. "We've got to see Mr. Corleoni, urgent."

"Mr. Corleoni is awfully busy — Saturday and holiday and all, but I'm sure I can help you."

"No, it has to be the manager," I said. "Tell him besides losing some money, it also involves one of your security guards."

Intercom. "Mr. Corleoni, it's a Mister Matt Houlihan, he insists on seeing you, losing some money, but a security guard involved."

"You know procedure on complaints," the intercom barked. "You take the details, tell him we make every effort. I got enough problems, don't bother me!"

"He's got one more problem," I said. "My friend here was ripped off by your Jerry Slick — how that creep ever got a permit in Vegas —!"

"Mr. Slick isn't from Vegas, he came down from Chicago, and the temporary permit is just till we get him checked out."

"ABBIE!" The spy box on the desk jumped. "You don't discuss personnel with nobody, no time!" Poor Abbie went white.

The door flew open and there was Corleoni the Gorilla, two hundred fifty pounds stuffed into that tuxedo, red hair, a face like raw beef. "Now what the hell is going on?"

"My friend got ripped off by your security man Jerry Slick," I said. "Serious, best we talk about it in private."

Corleoni glowered, then motioned us in. "Now, what is this crap? People lose money here all the time — an' some win too sometimes."

"They don't deserve bein' ripped off by your own security man," I nodded to Jordie.

"Jerry Slick came up to me in the Betsy Ross Cafe," said Jordie. "I'd lost some money, we talked, and he said he could fix it with the dealer at the Wheel of Fortune. I could make a big hit."

"We get all kinds of crazy complaints," said Corleoni. "We got several Wheels, it's only your say-so."

"It was by the Nathan Hale statue," said Jordie. "I went to the table, Slick came by and talked to the dealer, a big black man, and I put down a lot of money."

"Get me Jerry Slick!" Corleoni barked to the intercom. "Now!"

"I already called," said Abbie. "Security says they can't locate him, he must have gone out."

"Then get me Lincoln, Wheel Four," said Corleoni, "and keep on Slick!"

We had made first base, lead off to second.

"We make very effort," said Corleoni. "We say, if you can't lose, don't play. Don't come snivelin' —."

"But you take their rent and grocery money," I said, "and if you want, I'll find a dozen students out there right now, under age. And whatever, he don't deserve bein' ripped off, your own security guard."

Lincoln come in, six two, a good-looking black man, real fancy in his white ruffle satin shirt and red tie. "You wanted to see me, Mr. Corleoni?"

"This man says his friend got sandbagged at your Wheel. Jerry Slick told him you'd let him make a big hit."

"That's a damn lie!" Lincoln was incensed. "I told you 'bout Slick when he come in f'm Chicago — he had a smell."

"You remember this man at your Wheel?"

Lincoln glanced at Jordie. "Tonight, just a little time ago."

"He drop some money?"

Lincoln closed his eyes and looked at the ceiling. "He gave me just under three grand. I remember, it was little bills, he was uptight."

"And then?"

First he bet light, then he hung it all on Twenty and Joker. Burnout."

"You had three bombs your Wheel last two weeks?" said Corleoni.

"Yes," Lincoln admitted, "but all wheels 'bout the same. An the bunnies bringing us truckloads."

"OK, Lincoln," said Corleoni, "you report in to Personnel. For now, I'm having Nick take over your Wheel."

"You can't do that," yelled

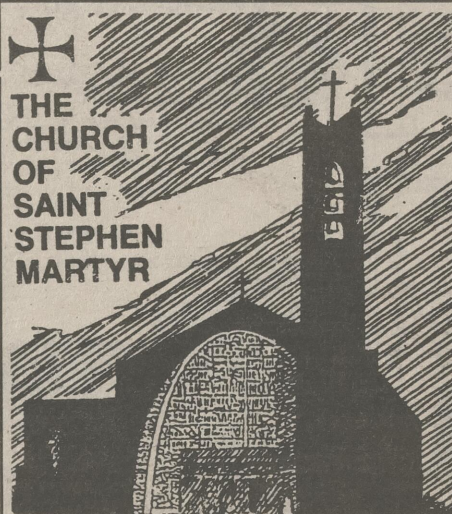
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Lincoln. "Ask the Boss in Chicago, Dominick knows me twelve years, he'll back me up!"

"Don't tell me what I can't do!" roared Corleoni. "I got discretion take any dealer off, we get a complaint. Now — git outa my face!"

"Call Dominick! That Slick is a crook and a liar!" Lincoln went out boiling.

Corleoni again to the intercom. "I wanted Slick, where is he?"

"He told security family emergency, went out just a few minutes ago," said Abbie.

Second base, lead off to third.

Corleoni turned to me, frustrated. "We make every effort, Mr. Houlihan," he said. "Now just give all details to Abbie —."

"You better make an effort right now," I said. "You got verification my friend lost his money, and you got a screwup responsible they unloaded on you f'm Chicago. Right now — three grand, it's not that big a deal."

"We follow all Commission rules," said Corleoni. "I don't give out no money to nobody. Now — I got things to do —."

"And best thing you can do," I said, "is use a little that discretion they pay you for, give the man his money — now!"

He come toward me raising his fist, his pig eyes like fire under the heavy black eyebrows. I moved a step closer to him. "Nobody tells me —!"

he hollered. I saw one reason they called him the Gorilla — the black hair coming from under his collar, and like fur on his wrists and hands. We were toe to toe, I'm sure they heard us in the High Roller suite clear across to the Mezzanine. "Now outa my office — GIT!"

On third base, long lead to home plate —.

"If you can't settle this little thing now," I said, "I'll be real happy tomorrow morning, see Mayor Ray — I was captain in his campaign — we'll see the Commissioner —."

"You see the Pope if you want," shouted Corleoni. "You got a big mouth!"

"— and we'll have all your Wheels closed down by noon, and half your blackjack tables —."

"You'll never," he shouted. "We've got friends!"

Slide for home plate!

"And when Dominick sees this plastered all over the front page of the Post, Monday morning, with your mug right in the middle —!"

"I had it with you," yelled Corleoni. "Outa my office!"

"— Dominick, he'll have your head, fried, on a platter, and he'll see you don't work in no Casino, nowhere, from now on!"

He opened his mouth, but nothing came out. Then he moved to his desk, opened the drawer and took out this thick

pad of bills. "— twenty six, seven, eight." He straightened the bills.

"Thirty," I said, "he lost more, his play earlier."

He wanted to stomp this old red-haired Irishman, but he flicked off two more bills. I nodded toward Jordie, he shoved the bills across, Jordie grabbed them.

"Now, I'm counting on you to hold up on this — we goin' check out this slime Jerry Slick, the whole mess. Give us a little time."

"We'll give you a little time," I said, "and maybe you could check the airports, Slick's probably there by now."

And we were out the door, Abbie give me a look and I blew her a kiss. "Now, Jordie, we're outa here fast, before he blows up, crap all over the walls and ceiling."

So in minutes we're at the Riggs Bank in the Watergate, and I watch as Jordie drops the brown envelope in the Deposits slot.

"You don't know what this means to me," said Jordie.

"Oh yes I do," I said, "more than you realize. Now — get on home to Laurie, she must be worried sick."

So finally I was standing on the porch on Hickory Street. I saw the full moon riding high, and off to the east a very bright star. But the snowflakes were starting to come down, it would be a white Christmas.

Western/Miriam's Kitchen Hearing Continues on February 2

At the January 19 hearing, the Western Presbyterian Church presented its appeal to the Board of Zoning Adjustment, asking that an order of the Zoning Administrator be overturned. The order stated that the church could not operate its homeless feeding program at its new location without a special variance. The hearing ran from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. and was adjourned due to the weather emergency.

It will continue on February 2 at 9:30 a.m. in Room 220 at the new D.C. building, 441 Fourth Street (Judiciary Square). It is open to all residents who wish to attend and/or testify.

Lucy was waiting up, in her bathrobe, anxious.

"Jordie lost some money at the Dolley Madison Casino," I said. "We had a little time of it, but we go it back, Jordie is OK, it's all took care of."

"Some day I suppose I'll get the whole story," said Lucy.

"You always do," I said. "It's been a rough day, Lucy. I'll tell you the whole story in the morning."

We looked down at Mei Lee, peacefully asleep in her little bed, the Viet doll tucked under her arm, her dark hair flowing over the pillow. I held Lucy in my arms, she was warm and sweet.

From somewhere, some late radio program, came the beautiful old hymn, "Silent Night, Holy Night," like a benediction.

And I thought of all the fathers and mothers, trying so

hard to protect their children from the bad things, like the ugly virus of the gambling casinos. And Jordie, so desperate to care for Laurie and the baby on the way.

Jordie! How was he to explain the mixup on the deposit to Tony? And I knew, as the Casinos have planned so well, the lure of Lady Luck would bring Jordie back to the tables before long, to prove his luck. Poor Laurie!

"Yes, we'll give them a little time!" Not even to New Year's, and whatever the 'friends' they have, and the protection their filthy millions can buy, we will never rest!

At last under the warm covers, exhausted, I remember Lucy touching me on the shoulder as I drifted off. "Merry Christmas, Matt," she whispered, "Merry Christmas!"

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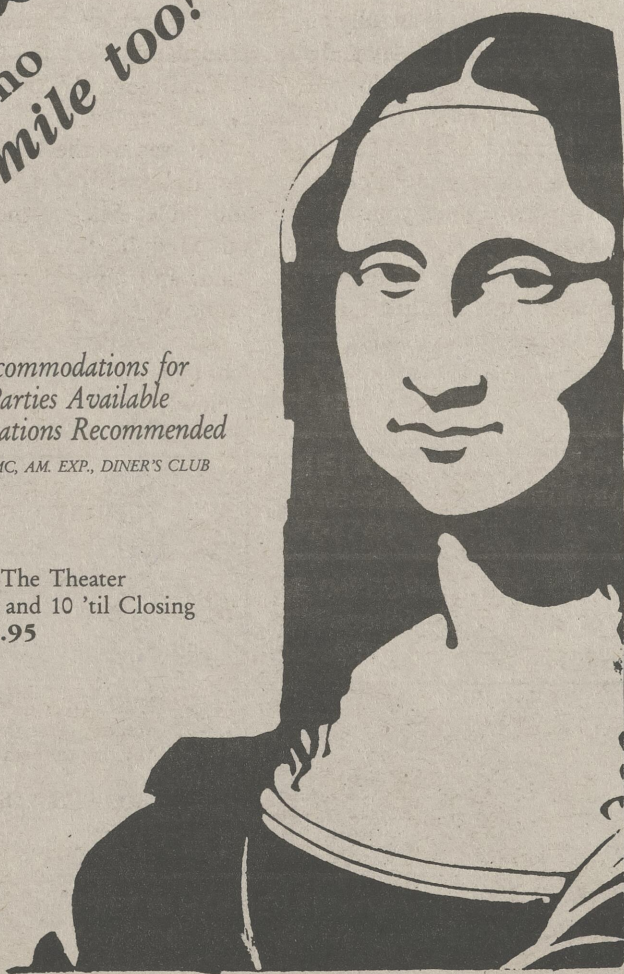
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ANC Highlights December 9, 1993

West End Parking Regulations. Unanimously passed a resolution opposing restrictions on residential parking in the West End. The proposed restrictions were published in the *D.C. Register* without notice to ANC-2A and would have effectively eliminated on-street parking for neighborhood residents. Representatives from the D.C. Department of Public Works were present and agreed to withdraw this proposal and a previous proposal that would have changed the traffic direction of 26th Street, between Pennsylvania Avenue and M Street.

Co-Generation Plant Application Bill. Unanimously passed a resolution to support the "Cogeneration Facilities Appropriateness Standards Act of 1993," which would prohibit the issuance of a permit to construct or operate a cogeneration facility within the District until the D.C. Public Service Commission has proposed and the D.C. City Council has approved standards for such facilities. **Pride Festival and Parade.** Pride of Washington, Inc., producer of the Pride Day Parade and Festival, is requesting an application for use of the recreation field located next to the Francis Pool as the site for the annual Pride Day Festival. The event, a celebration of lesbian and gay people, will be held on the afternoon of Saturday, June 4, and will result in restricted

parking on M and N Streets between 24th and 25th Streets. In addition, the parade route will be extended along 23rd Street to M Street. Previous festivals were held on the grounds behind the Francis School on N Street but, due to overcrowding, a change in location is being requested. Over 5,000 people are expected for the event. Questions or concerns about the event should be directed to Juan Vegega at 202-232-0231 or 703-903-2205. ANC-2A will act at its meeting on February 10 on a resolution to support the festival.

GW Marvin Center. Approved a resolution to resubmit a previously prepared report in opposition to the proposed George Washington University Marvin Center renovation.

January 13, 1994

Western Presbyterian Church. Unanimously approved a resolution requesting that the D.C. Board of Zoning Adjustment rule that an on-site homeless feeding program is not an accessory use but an activity which requires a special exception and/or variance. This would apply to the proposed relocation of Miriam's Kitchen to 2401 Virginia Avenue.

GWU/WETA Environmental Impact Statement. Unanimously approved a resolution requesting that the D.C. Department of Consumer and Regulatory Affairs prepare an independent, third-party environmental impact study of the electromag-

Jazzercise Returns to FB

The popular exercise program, Jazzercise, is again being offered in Foggy Bottom. Classes are held on Monday and Wednesday evenings at 6:45 p.m. and at 11:00 a.m. on Saturday at the West End Place, 1099 22nd Street. The classes feature 40 minutes of aerobics and 25 of muscle toning and stretching, all choreographed to today's popular music.

Several residents who enjoy Jazzercise prompted the return of the class and invite you to join them and the almost half a million others who take these classes worldwide. Cost is \$6.00 for a single class, with discount for multiple class passes. Call Ellie at 337-5528 for information.

netic emissions expected to be generated by the proposed development project at 21st and H Streets.

Elected New Officers. The new officers for 1993 are: Jean Swift, Chair; Sarah Maddux, Vice Chair; Ed Kelly, Secretary/Treasurer.

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Items of Interest from the DC Register

by Barbara F. Kahlow

Public Meetings

- 11/18 City Council on 3 nominations — 1 to Alcoholic Beverage Control (ABC) Board and 2 to Historic Preservation Board
- 11/23 Department of Consumer and Regulatory Affairs (DCRA) on proposed air quality permit for two Federal General Services Administration heating plants
- 11/30 DC Council Committee on Consumer and Regulatory Affairs on "Cogeneration Facilities Appropriateness Standards Act of 1993"
- 12/22 ABC Board on Yasa, Inc. ("Saya Brasserie") at 2401 Pennsylvania Avenue
- 1/12 Board of Zoning Adjustment (BZA) on GWU's Marvin Center at 800-21st and 2100 I Streets
- 1/19 BZA on homeless feeding program at new site for Western Presbyterian Church (2401 Virginia Avenue)
- 1/24 DC Council Committee on Consumer and Regulatory Affairs on Hampton Cross as Director of DCRA

Rulemakings

- 10/1 & 10/22 ABC Board's proposed rule, then emergency rule for East Dupont Circle Moratorium Zone and two City Council resolutions in support
- 10/8 Department of Public Works' (DPW) proposed rule to change 26th Street from M Street to Pennsylvania Avenue from northbound to southbound
- 11/12 DPW's proposed rules on changes in parking in the West End (22nd, 25th & N Streets)

Other Notices

- 11/12 DC Council vote of 8-4-1 on confirmation of Mary Eva Candon to ABC Board
- 12/3 & 12/17 Public Service Commission prehearing conference on Gerogetown cogenerator
- 12/10 Zoning Commission order on Associated General Contractors planned unit development at 19th & E Streets

Continued from page 1

tion requesting that the D.C. Department of Consumer and Regulatory Affairs conduct an Environmental Impact Study (EIS) to assess the health impact on the surrounding community. ANC-2A also requested the cooperation of GWU and WETA to assure that an independent EIS is completed.

Chris Lamb



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